

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8, 9, 14-16 and amend claim 1-7, 10 , 11, 12 and 13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A joint for a panel, the joint comprising a first edge and a second edge whereby the first edge comprises a groove and the second edge is provided with a tongue wherein the second edge further comprises an upper side groove, ~~[[that]]~~ and a joining profile, the joining profile is provided with a tongue and an intermediate section, the joining profile being so configured so as to allow~~[[ing]]~~ it to be located in the upper portion of the joint between two, joined, adjacent panels.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The joint for a panel according to claim 1, ~~the joint comprising a first edge and a second edge whereby the first edge comprises a groove and the second edge is provided with a tongue wherein the first edge further comprises an upper side groove and the second edge comprises an upper side groove, that a~~ and the joining profile is further provided with a first and second snapping tongue ~~and an intermediate section~~ , the joining profile being so configured so as to allow~~[[ing]]~~ the first and second snapping tongue to be fitted into upper side grooves of two, joined, adjacent panels.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joint further comprises the mating surfaces~~[[that]]~~ wherein the joining profile and the upper sides grooves are so configured that a play is created in the joint between the mating surfaces

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The joint according to claim 3 wherein the play is in

the range 0.05 - 1 mm.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The joint according to claim 1 wherein the tongue and the groove are configured to limit the movement in a vertical direction between two adjacent panels.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joining profile and the upper side grooves are configured to limit the movement in horizontal direction between two adjacent panels.

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The joint according to claim 2 wherein a portion arranged between the upper side groove and its respective distal edge portion comprises a recess.

8.-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the first groove edge surface will create a pressure on an outer edge of the joining profile when two adjacent panels are forced together, the pressure causing the intermediate section to be urged downwards.

11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The joint according to claim 10 wherein a portion arranged between the upper side groove and is respective distal edge portion comprises a recess , the recess being adapted to receive the lower portion of the intermediate section

when being urged downwards.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The joint according to claim 2 wherein the upper side groove is provided with a first groove edge surface and a second groove edge surface, and between the first and second groove edge surfaces a predetermined distance is present, the distance being so configured that the snapping tongue may be pressed in between the first and second groove edge surfaces.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The joint according to claim 12 wherein the first and second groove edge surfaces are arranged so that an undercut is present, that the snapping tongue of the joining profile is ~~adapted~~ configured with respect to the undercut so that a snap action locking effect is achieved.

14.-16. (Cancelled)